

BOROUGH OF KETTERING.




ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1943.

KETTERING :
H. RICHARDSON, WATER STREET.



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BOROUGH OF KETTERING

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

December, 1943.

Members :

Councillor G. B. Smith, C.C. (*Chairman*).
The Mayor, Councillor H. T. Tebbey, J.P.
Alderman Mrs. F. E. Clarke, J.P.
„ H. Martin, J.P.
„ C. Mayes, J.P., C.C.
„ D. F. Underwood.
Councillor H. E. Brockhurst, M.C.
„ F. C. Chambers.
„ C. E. Goode.
„ H. Hodge, C.C.
„ W. J. Litchfield.
„ E. A. Timson.
„ A. E. Tutty.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

December, 1943.

Councillor Mrs. C. F. Lewin, (*Chairman*).
The Mayor, Councillor H. T. Tebbey, J.P.
Alderman Mrs. F. E. Clarke, J.P.
Councillor H. E. Brockhurst, M.C.
„ W. Dyson.
„ H. Hodge, C.C.
„ W. Martin.
„ W. A. Swingler.
Miss F. M. Pollard, J.P. }
Mrs. E. E. Porter } Co-opted members.
Mrs. E. Thompson }

STAFF OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health :

Cecil B. Hogg, M.D., Ch.B. (Aberd.) D.P.H. (Lond.) (1)

Assistant Medical Officers of Health :

F. Bentham, M.B., B.S. (Durh.), D.P.H. (Lond.) (1)

*C. F. Howes, B.Sc., M.B., B.S.(Lond.) M.R.C.S.(Eng.) L.R.C.P. (Lond.) (Temporary).

*Ophthalmic Surgeon :

E. Harries-Jones, M.D., C.M. (Edin.) M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.)

*Surgeon for Diseases of the Ear, Nose and Throat :

N. E. Kendall, M.R.C.S.(Eng.) L.R.C.P. (Lond.) F.R.C.S. (Edin.)

*Orthopaedic Surgeon : F. Wilson Stuart, M.D., Ch.M. (Aberd.).

*Consultant Obstetrician :

R. Watson, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O. (Belf.) F.R.C.S. (Edin.), F.R.C.O.G.

Dental Surgeon : J. P. Finnan, L.D.S. (Glasg.)

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

H. E. Deuce, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (1) (2) (4)

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

F. W. Drury, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (1) (3) (4)

J. H. Smellie, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (1) (3) (4) (8) (9).
(until 6th February, 1943).

V. A. Vickers, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A. (Temporary). (1) (3)

A. H. Cornhill, M.S.I.A. (1) (3) (4) (from 1st April, 1943).

Health Visitors (also School Nurses) :

Miss G. Barrett (1) (5) (6)

Miss G. K. Jeffreys (1) (5) (6) (7) (until 25th Feb., 1943).

Miss E. E. Bell (1) (5) (6) (7)

Miss V. M. Burr (1) (5) (6) (7)

Miss L. McCaffrey (1) (5) (6) (7)

Mrs. M. P. Loasby (1) (5) (6) (Temporary).

Mrs. E. Andrews (1) (5) (6) (7) (from 10th May to 31st July, 1943).

Miss H. Ryding (6) (7) (Temporary from 23rd July, 1943).

Chief Clerk : Miss D. S. Spencer (Temporary).

Clerks : Miss J. E. Tasker (Temporary).

Mrs. M. E. Linnell (Temporary).

R. Mole (Temporary).

Mrs. V. Witchell (Temporary from 1st March to 3rd July, 1943).

On Active Service : H. F. O'Connor, A.R.S.I. (1) (3)

J. F. Burridge. L. S. Brace. R. Sindall.

* Part time.

(1) Exchequer Grants. (2) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector.
(3) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examining Board as Sanitary Inspector.

(4) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

(5) General Hospital Trained Nurse. (6) Certified Midwife. (7) Health Visitor's Certificate

(8) Smoke Inspector's Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute.

(9) Certificate of Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings & Public Work, Royal Sanitary Institute

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MANOR HOUSE,
KETTERING.

June, 1944.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR,
ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF KETTERING.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1943.

Again certain items of information have, in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, been omitted.

It will be seen that in the fourth year of the war the general health of the people of the Borough has been maintained. Examination of the figures in the table on page 7, which have been supplied by the Registrar General, shows that while the live birth rate for Kettering is 18.92 compared with 19.4 for 148 Smaller Towns and the stillbirth rate for Kettering is 0.59 compared with 0.51 for England and Wales and 0.45 for London, in every other instance where the Kettering figures are other than nil they are more favourable than those for the other areas.

Notwithstanding staffing difficulties, civil defence duties and increased Government legislation with its accompanying abundance of circulars and regulations the amount of work carried out by the Public Health Department compares favourably with that of other years.

I desire to thank the staff for continuing to maintain in their ordinary work and in the additional duties placed on them by war conditions a high standard of service.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CECIL B. HOGG,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Nursing in the Home.

(a) **General.**—This work was carried out as in previous years mainly by the staff of the Kettering District Nursing Association. The number of patients attended by the District Nurses was 615 and the number of visits paid was 12,488.

(b) **Infectious Diseases.**—The arrangement between the Borough Council and the Kettering District Nursing Association whereby District Nurses are available for the home nursing of cases of measles, whooping cough, diarrhoea, pneumonia and ophthalmia neonatorum in children under 5 years of age whose parents are not members of the Nursing Association Provident Scheme was continued during the year. Three hundred and sixty-six visits were paid to 19 cases.

Midwives.—The Medical Officer of Health for Northamptonshire County Council, which is the Local Supervising Authority under the Midwives Act, gives the total number of midwives practising in the Borough at the end of the year as 18 and of these the number employed by voluntary associations as 9. Six thousand three hundred and two visits were paid by midwives employed by the Kettering District Nursing Association to 357 cases.

Laboratory Facilities.—The following specimens were sent to the Clinical Research Association, London :—

Water—Well (Bacteriological exam.)	...	1
Milk (Bacteriological exam.)	...	11
Sewage Effluent (Chemical exam.)	...	1

The following specimens were sent to the Emergency Public Health Laboratories at Leicester and Northampton :—

Swabs from throat and nose	...	82
Swab from ear	...	1
Blood	...	1
Faeces	...	1013
Urine	...	14
Milk	...	1
Swab from under tongue	...	1
Mice droppings	...	1
Pus from abscess on neck	...	2
Smear from eye	...	1

One hundred and twenty-nine samples of raw milk were sent to the County Public Health Laboratory, Northampton, for examination by the methylene blue reduction test, also 17 samples of pasteurised milk for the phosphatase test. The results of these tests are shown on page 22. All of the samples of pasteurised milk were subjected to the plate count test.

Hospitals.—The hospitals mainly used by the inhabitants of the Borough were detailed in the Report for 1938.

Ambulance Facilities.—These remain as set out in the Report for 1938.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.—The arrangements for these were the same as in 1942.

Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic.—Twenty-four clinic sessions were held at the Public Health Department. The figures below show the number of children treated.

Diphtheria Immunisation—Total number of children who completed the full course of diphtheria immunisation during the year ended 31st December, 1943 :—

Under 5 years.		Over 5 years and under 15 years.	
K.	E.	K.	E.
543	9	215	34
552		249	
Estimated % of child population immunised at 31st December, 1943.		65.5	
		75.6	

K.==Kettering children. E.==Evacuated children.

Kettering Clinic of the Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital.—Twenty-five Surgeon's Clinics and 23 After-care Clinics were held.

The following table shows the number of cases on the books and the attendances :—

Kettering Clinic of the Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital.

	Attendances			
	Cases on Books		Orthopaedic Clinic	
	Kettering Residents	Evacuated Persons	Kettering Residents	Evacuated Persons
School children from the Borough ...	304	57	508	78
Children under school age from the Borough	90	5	199	6
Adults from the Borough ...	73	—	143	—
Adults and children from outside the Borough				
			179	367
				85

The number of cases and the attendances at the Treatment Clinic are given below :—

	Number of Cases		Attendances	
	Kettering Residents	Evacuated Persons	Kettering Residents	Evacuated Persons
School children from the Borough ...	51	2	786	27
Children under school age from the Borough ...	3	—	50	—
Adults from the Borough ...	20	—	442	—
Adults and children from outside the Borough...				
				30
				332

CLEANLINESS.

The Health Visitors have for many years past continued to impress on mothers for themselves and for their children the necessity for cleanliness both of the body and head. This work, accompanied when necessary by examination of the children, has been done at the various clinics held under the child welfare scheme and in the homes. For the children of school age the Health Visitors have, in their capacity of School Nurses, been able to supplement this by inspections and talks in school. Despite these efforts there has unfortunately been a slight decline recently in the general standard of cleanliness, due no doubt to housing difficulties, tiredness and lack of time of mothers engaged in wartime work, etc. As the slogan "Where there's Dirt there's Danger" is a very true one it is hoped that no further deterioration of cleanliness will be allowed to take place.

GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME.

The number of evacuated persons in the Borough was less than during 1942; the figures for 1943 are shown in the Annual Report upon the School Medical Service.

The Elm Bank Hostel for boys and the Park View Hostel for girls continued to function satisfactorily and children who were unsuitable for billets were housed, trained and treated there.

The Queensberry Road Hostel continued in use as a "buffer" hostel, to accommodate children during short periods when billets were not available, e.g., holidays or illness of foster parents, etc.

Four women were received for their confinements into the St. John's Emergency Maternity Home, Weston Favell.

Information regarding the attendance of evacuated women and children at the various maternity and child welfare clinics is given later in the Report in the section dealing with that work.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.—A constant and sufficient supply has been maintained throughout the year. The pressure filters, slow sand filters and chlorination plant at Cransley Reservoir continue to give excellent results as does the small plant at Thorpe Malsor Reservoir dealing with the supply to Thorpe Malsor Hall and village. The gravity type chloronome installed to deal with the water from the Clover Hill Well has also continued to give very satisfactory results.

Samples of water from the town mains and from the Corporation's reservoirs have been submitted regularly to the Analysts during the past year and excellent results have been obtained.

The reservoirs commenced the year approximately one third depleted, but due to the exceptionally heavy rainfall of January, 1943 they were overflowing before the end of that month and continued to do so until the latter part of March. From that month onwards they continued to fall and at the close of the year were filled to one third capacity only.

The total rainfall at Cransley for the year 1943 was 21.39 inches as against an average of 24.91 inches for the last 79 years. It should be noted that 1943 is the first year since the drought years of 1933-1934 in which the rainfall has been below the average. The 8 consecutive years 1935-1942 have all been above the 79 years' average, whereas of the preceding 7 years, 5 of the 7 were below the average. It is, therefore, more likely than not that the rainfall during the 2 years 1943-1944 will be below the average.

During the year 2 samples of water were obtained from a well supplying 1 house. One was submitted for chemical examination and 1 for bacteriological examination. The reports upon these samples were unsatisfactory. Consequent upon these reports 1 house was provided with the town's water supply. In addition, 8 house owners laid on the same supply voluntarily. Since 1919, 895 houses have been provided with the town's water supply through the agency of the Health Department.

Rivers and Streams.—The rivers and streams generally have been carefully watched. Special attention has been given to the River Ise and West Brook in order to minimise any pollution from the old Sewage Disposal Works, Pytchley Road, and, in the case of the River Ise, from a private Disposal Works.

Closet Accommodation.—There is a considerable number of properties in the Barton Seagrave and Windmill Avenue areas which cannot be connected to public sewers until the new main outfall sewer is completed in the Ise Valley. These properties have properly constructed septic tanks arranged in such a manner as to be readily connected to the future main sewers. It is desirable that these sewers should be available at the earliest possible date in order that the septic tanks may be eliminated.

Public Cleansing.—The vehicles engaged on this work continue to give good service and the methods employed are satisfactory.

Attention has been paid to the question of salvage, particularly waste paper, rags, bones, metals and kitchen waste. The use of salvage trailers has continued satisfactorily. One week per month has again been allocated to salvage collection only, collection of household refuse being suspended during this period.

Care has again been taken to ensure that the normal requirements of controlled tipping are complied with at the tip face.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Considerable difficulty has been experienced during the year in getting even the most urgent repairs carried out owing to the shortage of labour and materials. Despite this disadvantage it is considered that the sanitary circumstances of the town have been well maintained.

Six hundred and seventy-six defects or nuisances were remedied during the period under review. Preliminary notices were served in respect of 180 premises and verbal intimations were given regarding 147 premises.

Following non-compliance of these notices 27 cautionary letters were sent to the persons concerned.

Two hundred and fifty-five complaints were received.

House Inspection.—During the year 518 houses were inspected for the following reasons :—

Infectious disease	148
In respect of complaints	255
Coming under observation	87
At request of builders	9
At request of owners	8
At request of others	33
At request of doctors	2
Rent Restriction Acts	6

One thousand, three hundred and fifty-one secondary visits were made to ascertain whether defects had been remedied and to supervise work in progress.

Inspections and Visits, etc.

Infectious Diseases :

Diphtheria	6
„ (revisits)	1
Scarlet Fever	132
„ (revisits)	16
Erysipelas	12
„ (revisits)	1
Paratyphoid Fever	1
„ (revisits)	9
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1
„ (revisits)	2
Undulant Fever	1
Tuberculosis	11
Dysentery	75
„ (revisits)	861
Scabies	270
Rooms disinfected	230
Articles of bedding, etc. disinfected	22,773
Articles of bedding, etc. destroyed	180

Baths given for Scabies :—

(a) to Kettering school children	...	...	...	...	825
(b) to other Kettering persons	...	...	...	...	355
(c) to evacuated school children	...	...	...	...	185
(d) to other evacuated persons	...	...	...	...	29
(e) contact baths given to Kettering school children	...	...	...	...	100
(f) contact baths given to other Kettering persons	...	...	...	...	145
(g) contact baths given to evacuated school children	...	...	...	...	36
(h) contact baths given to other evacuated persons	...	...	...	...	17
Complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	255
Factories with mechanical power	...	...	...	...	137
Factories without mechanical power	...	...	...	...	13
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	63
Milkshops and cowsheds	...	...	...	...	87

Food premises :—

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	455
Meat shops, stalls and vehicles	...	...	...	...	63
Fish shops	...	...	...	...	22
Markets	...	...	...	...	61
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	232
Secondary inspections	...	...	...	...	1351
Rats and Mice Destruction Act	...	...	...	...	162
Offensive trades	...	...	...	...	1
Common lodging houses	...	...	...	...	47
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	5
Interviews with owners, agents, builders and tenants	...	...	...	...	437
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	1105

Smoke test was applied to drains of 8 houses and defects were revealed at 5 houses.

Water test was applied to reconstructed drains on 2 occasions.

Smoke test was applied to repaired drains on 3 occasions.

Notices Served :—

(a) Statutory :—

Notices served under the Scabies Order, 1941	...	25
--	-----	----

(b) Preliminary :—

Notices to execute work or to abate nuisance were served in respect of 180 premises.

Verbal notices were given in respect of 147 premises.

Cautionary letters sent numbered 27.

Sanitary Work carried out.

A. Housing repairs, etc., executed.

New sewer connections	...	...	...	...	1
Public sewers repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Houses redrained	...	...	...	...	2

Houses at which drains were repaired	...	...	...	6
Intercepting traps fixed	...	...	...	2
Inspection chambers constructed	...	...	...	3
Fresh air inlets fixed to drains or repaired	...	...	...	2
Ventilation pipes fixed to drains or repaired	...	...	...	4
Cast-iron covers and frames to inspection chambers renewed	...	...	...	4
Houses provided with town's water supply	...	...	...	1
Defective W.C. pans and traps removed	...	...	...	19
Additional W.C.s constructed	...	...	...	1
W.C.s provided with flushing cisterns and water supply	...	...	...	3
Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	17
Glazed gullies provided	...	...	...	3
Paving to yards repaired	...	...	...	7
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	47
Rain water gutters and down pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	21
New sink waste pipes provided or old repaired	...	...	...	5
Rooms stripped and cleansed	...	...	...	80
Ceilings cleansed	...	...	...	8
Windows repaired	...	...	...	10
Walls repaired (internally)	...	...	...	47
Walls repaired (externally)	...	...	...	16
Doors and frames renewed or repaired	...	...	...	11
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	14
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	14
Coppers repaired or renewed	...	...	...	9
Stoves and fireplaces repaired or renewed	...	...	...	16
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	11
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	17
Obstruction removed from drains and W.C.s	...	...	...	53
Sub-floor ventilation provided	...	...	...	4
Rooms and bedding cleansed (by tenant)	...	...	...	6
Private sewage works repaired	...	...	...	1
Cases of overcrowding relieved	...	...	...	10
Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	2
Accumulations of refuse removed	...	...	...	5
Refuse receptacles provided	...	...	...	15
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	16
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	67
Total	...	...	...	582

B. Factories (with or without mechanical power) and Other Premises.

Defective lighting or ventilation remedied	...	...	6
Defective roof or spouting remedied	...	...	1
Limewashing and general cleansing carried out	...	...	1
Defective floors or yard paving remedied	...	...	1

Sanitary Accommodation :—

(a) Insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	2
(b) Unsuitable	...	...	...	...	...	5
(c) Separation for sexes	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other improvements	...	...	...	...	...	24
						—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	41
						—

C. Hotels, Restaurants, Kitchens and Confectionery Premises.

Defective lighting or ventilation remedied	...	...	...	...	1
Structural defects remedied	...	...	...	...	2
Limewashing or general cleansing carried out	...	...	...	...	4
Other improvements carried out	...	...	...	...	4
					—
Total	...	...	...	...	11
					—

D. Cowsheds and Dairies .

Limewashing and general cleansing carried out	...	...	...	...	4
					—

E. Bakehouses.

Defective roofs or spouting remedied	...	...	...	...	1
Defective floors and yard paving remedied	...	...	...	...	1
Blocked or defective drains remedied or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	1
General cleansing carried out	...	...	...	...	10
Other improvements carried out	...	...	...	...	3
					—
Total	...	...	...	...	16
					—

F. Food Premises.

Defective floors or pavings remedied	...	...	...	...	2
Regular, periodic and general cleansing carried out	...	...	...	...	1
					—
Total	...	...	...	...	3
					—

G. Cinemas.

Urinals and water closets cleansed	...	...	...	...	3
Additional sanitary accommodation provided	...	...	...	...	1
					—
Total	...	...	...	...	4
					—

H. Common Lodging Houses.

Premises where structural defects remedied	...	...	1
Premises where limewashing and general cleansing carried out	...	...	1
Premises where other improvements carried out	...	...	1
			<hr/> 3

I. Miscellaneous.

Houses at which owners' name and address inserted in Rent Book	...	...	...	...	...	2
Houses at which name and address of Medical Officer of Health inserted in Rent Book	...	...	...	...	...	3
Houses at which "permitted number" inserted in Rent Book	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nuisances re animal premises abated	...	...	...	...	...	4
Nuisances from movable Dwellings abated	...	...	...	...	...	2
						<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	12
						<hr/>
Grand Total	...	...	...	...	...	676

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Bye-laws or Regulations.

Common Lodging House.—Forty-seven visits were made to the only common lodging house situated in the district. The usual half-yearly limewashing of the premises was duly carried out and certain other improvements were effected as the result of informal action.

Camping Sites.—No sites in the area were used for holiday camping purposes during 1943.

Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which gives power to local authorities to control the use of movable dwellings does not operate in this district owing to the operation of Section 38 of the Kettering Improvement Act, 1904, which controls the use of temporary and movable buildings.

The sanitary condition of the site, which belongs to the Corporation, usually occupied by fairs, etc., on their periodical visits was found to be satisfactory during their sojourn.

Offensive Trades, etc.

Trade	No. in district	No. of visits	Remarks
Leather Dresser ...	12	8	These premises are also factories under the supervision of H.M. Inspector of Factories.
Hide and Bone Stores ...	2	1	

Swimming Baths and Pools.—The Covered Swimming Bath was closed throughout the year. The Open Air Swimming Bath again proved very popular during the summer months as is indicated by the under-mentioned statistics. The number of persons who used the Slipper Baths in 1943 was 27,867 as compared with 7,433 in 1938.

Number of persons using the slipper baths (exclusive of those using the vapour and combined vapour and slipper baths) ...	27,867
Number of persons using the Open Air Swimming Bath	40,735
Number of season ticket holders for the Open Air Swimming Bath	346

The rapid pressure filtration and chlorination plant installed some years ago continued to function satisfactorily.

Wicksteed Park Lake has again been used for outdoor bathing and action was taken, as mentioned earlier in the Report, to minimise any pollution of the River Ise which passes through it.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.—The following statement shows the number of houses infested with bed bugs which were dealt with during the year :—

Council houses found to be infested	6
Other houses found to be infested	12
Total	18
Council houses disinfested	5
Other houses disinfested	11
Total	16

The procedure outlined in the Annual Report for 1938 was again followed with regard to bug-infested houses and prospective tenants of Council houses.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act.—The administration of this Act during the year received full attention and 162 visits were made by the Sanitary Inspectors to infested premises.

The following statement indicates the action taken by the Department during the year.

Number of visits by Ratcatcher to affected premises ...	488
Number of rats destroyed	2110
Number of occasions poison baits laid	148
Number of cases where traps were used	28
Number of mice destroyed... ..	322

HOUSING.

The condition of certain dwelling houses is now showing a rapid deterioration as the result of war limitation of repair facilities. This situation, associated with the demand for improved housing conditions and the acute housing shortage, necessitates the adoption at the earliest possible moment of a vigorous programme of building of new houses and improvement or demolition of existing houses. The number of live applications for Council houses at the end of December, 1943 was 1,500.

On the 1st January, 1943 there were 12 overcrowded dwellings on the register and 6 new cases were found. Ten cases of overcrowding involving 101 persons were relieved during the year.

On the 31st December, 1943 there were 8 overcrowded dwellings on the register.

Form B has been compiled in respect of 6,898 houses and certificates stating the permitted number have been issued in respect of 6,565 houses. Live births which are notified are added to the appropriate Form B with a view to controlling as far as practicable any overcrowding due to additions to families and to the growing-up of children.

In December, 1930 a schedule of 136 houses which it was considered should receive attention as being unfit for human habitation was prepared. From time to time additions were made to this list until a total of 242 houses was reached. It was also estimated that 500 houses would be repaired under Part II. of the Housing Act, 1930.

The position on the 31st December, 1943, regarding the above 242 houses proposed to be dealt with under the Housing Acts was as follows :—

Houses rendered fit	...	...	...	...	...	5
Houses demolished in clearance areas	...	...	...	...	...	24
Houses unoccupied in clearance areas	...	...	...	...	...	4
Houses occupied in clearance areas	...	...	...	...	...	2
Houses demolished (including conversion to business premises, added to adjoining dwelling house or demolished through outstanding closing orders, Housing Act, 1925)	...	...	...	...	...	147
Houses unoccupied with demolition orders operative	...	...	...	...	...	6
Houses occupied with demolition orders operative	...	...	...	...	...	1
Houses unoccupied with undertakings accepted not to re-let	...	...	...	...	...	19
Part of dwelling-house closed, Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	1
Houses awaiting consideration	...	...	...	...	...	33
						242

Persons displaced during the years 1928—1930	...	...	78
1931—1942	...	...	666
Persons displaced during the year 1943			
To Council houses	...	...	Nil
To other premises	...	...	Nil
			<hr/> 744 <hr/>

Number of houses rendered fit under Part II. of the Housing Act, 1930, and Part II. of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

As a result of formal action	...	...	137
As a result of informal notice preliminary to formal notice	...	...	623
			<hr/> 760 <hr/>

Number of dwelling-houses erected during the year :—

(a) 1. By Local Authority	...	...	Nil
2. By other Local Authorities	...	...	Nil
3. By other bodies or persons	...	...	Nil
(b) With State assistance under Housing Acts by the Local Authority. (Included in (a))			
1. For purposes of the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	Nil
2. By other bodies or persons	...	...	Nil

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	541
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	1351
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925			1
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	2
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	1
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	213

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	236
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—				
(a) By owners	...	...	...	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—		
(a) By owners	...	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	Nil

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	...	...	...	Nil

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	...	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	Nil
Demolished in clearance areas	...	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding :—

(1) (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	8
(b) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	13
(c) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	73
(2) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	6
(3) (a) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	10
(b) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	101
(4) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Eighty-seven visits to cowsheds, dairies and milkshops were made during the year. As a result of these 4 matters received attention.

Milk (Special Designation Order), 1936.

Number of dairymen licensed to retail tuberculin-tested milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number of dairymen licensed to retail accredited milk							1
Number of retailers licensed to bottle accredited milk							1
Number of dairymen licensed to pasteurise milk						...	2
Number of samples of pasteurised milk submitted for the phosphatase test	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Number of samples of pasteurised milk on examination found satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	...	17

Seventeen samples of pasteurised milk were subjected to the phosphatase test and the results indicated that the milk had been satisfactorily pasteurised in all cases.

All of the above 17 samples of pasteurised milk were subjected to the plate count test giving an average count of 23,631 bacteria per millilitre for 16 cases, the seventeenth being reported as uncountable.

One hundred and twenty-nine samples of raw milk were submitted for examination by the methylene blue test with the following results :—

76 samples were satisfactory.							
6	„	decolourised before 5 hours.					
1	„	„	„	4½	„		
12	„	„	„	4	„		
6	„	„	„	3½	„		
8	„	„	„	3	„		
6	„	„	„	2½	„		
5	„	„	„	2	„		
6	„	„	„	1½	„		
3	„	„	„	1	„		

The above table shows that 59.0% of the samples of raw milk attained the standard for accredited milk as compared with 67.2% in 1942 and 72.1% in 1941, thus indicating that a deterioration in the method of milk production has taken place, doubtless due to wartime difficulties.

Milk samples were also submitted for examination with negative results for the presence of the following diseases and conditions :

- 1 milk sample for Sonne dysentery.
- 4 milk samples for tuberculosis.
- 8 milk samples for tuberculosis, blood, pus and dirt.

Meat and Other Foods.—Centralised slaughtering under the control of the Ministry of Food was continued at the only licensed slaughterhouse which remains in use : 455 visits were made and 20,238 animals were inspected.

Sixty-three visits were made to meat shops, stalls and vehicles and 61 visits to the Cattle and General Markets.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle, exclud- ing cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2644	365	1062	15648	519
Number inspected	2644	365	1062	15648	519
Total number inspected ...	2644	365	1062	15648	519
All diseases, except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcasses condemned	16	22	4	28	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	241	67	4	137	35
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	9.7%	24.4%	0.75%	1.05%	7.1%
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcasses condemned	10	10	—	—	9
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	269	123	4	—	38
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	10.7%	36.4%	.37%	—	9.1%

Thirty-two slaughtermen were licensed in accordance with the requirements of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933. No contra-vention of this Act was found.

Mr. E. W. Hudson, M.R.C.V.S., the local Veterinary Inspector fo the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, attends the Cattle Market each week to deal with any case coming within the purview of the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts, 1894—1935. In ad-dition to his powers under the aforementioned Acts he can, under

the provisions of Sections 138 and 139 of the Kettering Improvement Act, 1904, cause any animal suspected by him to be affected with tubercular disease or any old, emaciated or diseased animal which in his opinion is unfit for human food to be removed from the Cattle Market.

As a result of visits being made to premises where food is prepared or sold it was found necessary to condemn and destroy as being unfit for human food 38 tons 16 cwt. 2 qrs. and $4\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. of food material. Two hundred and eighty certificates were issued to traders to enable them to obtain compensation.

Bakehouses.—Sixty-three visits were made to bakehouses. As a result of these visits 16 matters received attention.

Fried Fish Shops.—Twenty-two visits were made to these premises. No complaints were received during the year.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis) During the year 1943.

The following table gives the number and age groups of the cases notified :—

Disease.	All Ages 1942	All Ages 1943	Under 1 year	1 to 2 years	2 to 3 years	3 to 4 years	4 to 5 years	5 to 10 years	10 to 15 years	15 to 20 years	20 to 35 years	35 to 45 years	45 to 65 years	65 and over	Removed to Hospital	Total Deaths
Small-pox ...	nil.	nil.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	125	123	—	1	4	10	19	64	16	6	1	—	2	—	78	—
Diphtheria ...	9	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	2	—	6	—
Enteric Fever (including Typhoid & Paratyphoid) ...	1	nil.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—
Pneumonia ...	17	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	11
Erysipelas ...	12	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	6	3	6	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	1	nil.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Dysentery ...	nil.	6	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	3	—
Measles ...	11	653	11	58	61	64	108	313	29	3	3	2	1	—	5	—
Whooping Cough ...	101	49	3	7	8	8	5	15	1	1	1	—	—	—	3	2
Totals ...	290	855	15	67	73	84	132	392	48	13	13	2	12	4	105	13

Five cases of scarlet fever, 50 cases of measles, and 2 cases of whooping-cough were evacuated children.

Summary of Cases of Infectious Diseases in Wards, 1943.

Disease	Totals	Kingsley	Northfield	St. Andrew's	Avondale	St. Peter's	St. Mary's	Barton
Scarlet Fever	123	10	10	12	14	26	11	40
Diphtheria	6	1	—	—	1	3	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Pneumonia	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Erysipelas	12	1	2	2	1	2	2	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Dysentery	6	—	3	—	3	—	—	—
Measles	653	78	72	74	99	124	70	136
Whooping Cough	49	1	11	7	4	6	8	12
Totals	855	91	99	96	125	162	92	190

Small-pox.—No cases of this disease occurred.

Scarlet Fever.—One hundred and twenty-three cases were notified, a decrease of 2 compared with the figure for the previous year. Seventy-eight or 63% were removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital. The disease was mainly of a mild type and no deaths occurred.

The view is now largely held that scarlet fever is only one of the many forms which infection with the haemolytic streptococcus takes and that cases of this type do not require isolation in hospital while those of streptococcal sore throat with no rash are left at home. In addition there is the risk for cases admitted to hospital of complications due to cross infection. However, there is good reason for admitting to hospital cases of scarlet fever when the disease is severe, when the home is overcrowded, when the nursing facilities are inadequate, when a member of the household is engaged in food handling outside the home and when the confinement of any female in the house is shortly due.

Diphtheria.—Six cases of this disease were notified ; all were admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital and recovered. None had been immunised.

Enteric Fever.—No cases occurred during the year.

Pneumonia.—Two cases were notified compared with 17 in 1942. Eleven deaths were attributed to pneumonia (all forms), the figure for the previous year being 20.

Erysipelas.—Twelve cases were notified, the same number as in 1942. Six were admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital. No deaths took place.

Cerebro-spinal Fever.—One case was notified, admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital and recovered.

Dysentery.—Six cases of dysentery of the Sonne type were notified. Three were admitted to hospital and were discharged cured.

Measles.—Six hundred and fifty-three cases were notified mostly during the months of March and April. No deaths occurred. Five complicated cases were admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital and were discharged cured.

Whooping Cough.—Forty-nine cases were notified. Three complicated cases were admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital. Two deaths were attributed to this disease.

Chicken-pox, Mumps and German Measles.—These diseases are not notifiable. Thus accurate information of their incidence is difficult to obtain. The records of the School Medical Department show that amongst school children the following cases occurred :—

				Kettering Children	Evacuated Children
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	38	2
Mumps	...	...	...	57	6
German Measles	...	...	...	4	—

Influenza.—A number of cases occurred during the last quarter of the year. Eight deaths were attributed to this disease.

Tuberculosis.—The Northamptonshire County Council is the authority responsible for tuberculosis in the Borough. Fifty-five cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 4 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified in 1943. In 1942 the figures were 40 and 6 respectively. The Registrar-General returns the number of deaths from tuberculosis as : pulmonary 22, non-pulmonary 7. These figures differ from the locally compiled ones which are shown in the following table. In 1942 the figures were 21 and 5 respectively.

New cases and Mortality during 1943.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 yr.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 10 ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 15 ...	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
15 to 20 ...	6	2	—	—	—	2	—	1
20 to 25 ...	3	3	—	—	1	1	—	—
25 to 35 ...	7	9	1	—	4	4	—	—
35 to 45 ...	5	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
45 to 55 ...	5	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
55 to 65 ...	6	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
65 & over ...	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	37	18	3	1	12	9	—	1

Form I. (Patients admitted to Sanatoria) ... 31
Form II. (Patients discharged from Sanatoria) ... 36

Scabies.—The number of cases of scabies decreased from 1,075 in 1942 to 687. These patients were given 1,394 baths and other treatment by the staff of the Public Health Department. They included 406 Kettering school children who were given 825 baths, 91 evacuated school children who were given 185 baths, 176 other Kettering persons who were given 355 baths and 14 other evacuated persons who were given 29 baths. In addition 298 contacts were given preventive treatment. Use was made of the Scabies Order, 1941 to persuade contacts to attend for examination either at the Public Health Department or by their private medical attendant. It was necessary to serve 25 notices under the Order but in no instance were Court proceedings required.

Disinfecting and Cleansing Station.—The 687 cases of scabies and the 298 contacts mentioned in the preceding paragraph were dealt with at the Disinfecting and Cleansing Station. Twenty-two thousand seven hundred and seventy-three articles of clothing and bedding were disinfected by steam or hot air, a decrease of 6,754 on the figures for 1942. One hundred and eighty articles were destroyed at the request of the owners.

Two hundred and thirty rooms were disinfected. The reasons for disinfection are shown in the undermentioned table :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	124
Diphtheria	...	...	...	7
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	10
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	2
Dysentery	...	...	...	2
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	42
Cancer	...	...	...	30
Other diseases	...	...	...	12

In addition all the Elementary Schools were disinfected by spraying during each of the principal vacations.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Ante-natal and Post-natal Supervision.—Three ante-natal sessions were held weekly throughout the year except during the first week of each month, when one of these sessions was devoted to post-natal cases. Evacuated expectant mothers attended the clinics for Kettering residents as the small numbers did not require separate sessions.

For Kettering cases completed during the year the average number of attendances was 9.1.

The relationship which the number of women from the Borough attending the ante-natal clinic bears to the total number of children born to mothers residing in Kettering is 34.95%.

Ninety-one or 42.32% of the Kettering expectant mothers who attended the ante-natal clinic and were confined during the year were examined at the post-natal clinic.

The following table gives particulars of the work carried out :—

Ante-natal Clinic :—				Kettering & District Residents	Evacuated Persons
Sessions held	...	...	...	125	
Expectant mothers :—					
First attendance in 1942	...	...	...	93	2
First attendance in 1943	...	...	...	287	4
Total attending	...	...	...	380	6
Re-attendances in 1943	...	...	...	1947	41
Total attendances in 1943	...	...	...	2234	45
Average attendance per session	...	...	...	17.87	—
Cases sent by doctors	...	...	...	97	2
Cases sent by midwives	...	...	...	14	—
Cases sent by health visitors	...	...	...	20	2
Cases sent by another patient	...	...	...	24	—
Cases sent by others	...	...	...	2	—
Cases came on own initiative	...	...	...	130	—
Primigravidae examined at first visit					
in 1943	...	...	...	138	2
Multigravidae examined at first visit					
in 1943	...	...	...	149	2
Normal labours	...	...	...	201	4

				Kettering & District Residents	Evacuated Persons
Abnormal labours :—					
Post-partum haemorrhage	...	...	...	1	—
Caesarean section	...	...	...	4	—
Face presentation	...	...	...	1	—
Abortions	...	...	...	3	—
Stillbirths	...	...	...	2	—
Miscarriages	...	...	...	2	—
Twins	...	...	...	1	—
Not pregnant	...	...	...	1	—
Left town	...	...	...	20	—
Transferred to doctors	...	...	...	40	1
Transferred to district nurses	...	...	...	3	—
Undelivered at end of year	...	...	...	100	1
Transferred to register of evacuated persons	...	...	...	1	—
Post-natal Clinic :—					
Sessions held	...	...	...	12	—
First attendances in 1943	...	...	...	91	—
Re-attendances in 1943	...	...	...	10	—
Total attendances	...	...	...	101	—
Average attendance per session	...	...	...	8.42	—
Visits of midwives, friends, etc.	...	...	...	379	—
Patients sent for X-Ray examination	...	...	...	1	—
Patients advised dental treatment	...	...	...	88	—
Patients referred to private doctors	...	...	...	69	—
Patients referred to V.D. Clinic	...	...	...	29	1
Patients referred to Tuberculosis Officer	...	...	...	1	—
Patients referred to Consultant Obstetrician	...	...	...	76	1
Patients referred to Birth Control Clinic	...	...	...	2	—
Patients referred to Gynaecologist	...	...	...	—	—
Patients referred to Ophthalmic Surgeon	...	...	...	4	—
Letters to doctors, district nurses, hospitals, etc.	...	...	...	204	2

Maternal Mortality.—No deaths of women resident in the Borough were classed by the Registrar General to pregnancy or child bearing but 1 death was associated therewith.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—Two cases were notified, both Kettering residents. One of the cases occurred in hospital and the other at home.

Maternity Accommodation.—The need for increased institutional accommodation for maternity cases was stressed in the Report for 1942. That need continues and is now more acute on account of the larger number of births which are occurring. During the year 109 mothers made unsuccessful applications to the Public Health Department for admission to institutions for their confinements.

In January, 1942, with the consent of the Local Supervising Authority for the purposes of the Midwives Acts, 1902—1934, the Northamptonshire County Council, arrangements were made for discharging women from hospital before the expiration of 14 days from the birth of the baby, provided that the patient was medically fit, that the home conditions were satisfactory and that a midwife continued attention to the mother and child until the end of a period of 14 days from the birth of the baby. This scheme, which has worked satisfactorily, has helped to alleviate to some extent the shortage of beds for maternity cases and its success is largely due to the co-operation of the midwives of the Kettering District Nursing Association, who have taken over the care of the mothers and babies in the homes.

(1) Kettering and District General Hospital.—One hundred and two women were admitted under the Borough Council's Scheme. Forty-three private patients from Kettering were received and 50 patients from the County area. Ten children, of whom the mothers of 4 were Kettering residents, were stillborn. Six children, of whom the mothers of 4 were Kettering residents, died within 10 days of birth. The average number of days in hospital of the mothers was 14.9. In accordance with the arrangements mentioned above 28 women were discharged before the expiration of 14 days from the birth of the baby, 3 on the 10th day, 6 on the 11th day, 9 on the 12th day and 10 on the 13th day.

(2) Kettering Public Assistance Institution.—Thirty women resident in Kettering were received in the County Maternity Home.

(3) St. John's Emergency Maternity Home, Weston Favell.—Four evacuated expectant mothers were admitted.

(4) Barratt Maternity Home, Northampton.—Two expectant mothers were on the advice of the Consultant Obstetrician admitted there under his care.

Consultant Obstetrician.—Five applications for Mr. Watson's services were received from medical practitioners. All were on behalf of Kettering residents.

Patients from the Borough attended Mr. Watson's Consultative Ante-natal Clinic at the Kettering and District General Hospital. Seventy-six Kettering residents and 1 evacuated woman were referred from the Borough Ante-natal Clinic.

Emergency Unit for Maternity Cases.—This service was not required during the year.

Still-births.—The still-birth rate per 1,000 total population was 0.59.

Infantile Mortality.—The rate per 1,000 live births was 40.18 compared with 49 for England and Wales.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—One case was notified. No impairment of vision resulted.

The Pre-School Child.—(1) Nursery School, Nursery Classes and War-time Nursery.—The Ronald Tree Nursery School, the Nursery Classes at the Rockingham Road and Henry Gotch Infant Schools and the War-time Nursery continued to carry out good work for children under 5 years of age. Information regarding numbers, medical defects, etc. of the children in attendance are, with the exception of the War-time Nursery, given in the Annual Report upon the School Medical Service.

The War-time Nursery is in charge of a Matron who is a State Registered Children's Nurse. The accommodation is for 40 children from 2 to 4 years of age whose mothers are engaged on war work. The average number on the roll was 34.69 and the average attendance was 23.24. In order to prevent as far as possible the introduction of infection by new children it is the practice to examine every prospective entrant 2 days prior to admission. Re-examinations are done each term. Forty-three first examinations and 142 re-examinations were carried out. Twenty-five children required treatment and 31 children required to be kept under observation.

(2) Deaths of Children under 5 Years of Age.—The ages and causes of death of 5 children were :—

<i>Age.</i>			<i>Cause of Death.</i>
17 months	...	...	Tuberculous meningitis.
17 months	...	...	Hydrocephalus. Bronchiolitis. Mongolism.
19 months	...	...	Broncho-pneumonia. Whooping Cough.
19 months	...	...	Broncho-pneumonia. Whooping Cough.
3 years	...	...	Tuberculous meningitis.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order.—As under the arrangements made by the Ministry of Food expectant and nursing mothers and child holders of the green RB.2 ration book (i.e., children up to and slightly over 5 years of age) can obtain free or at the reduced cost of 2d. per pint a priority allowance of 7 pints of milk weekly, it has not been necessary for the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee to supply milk under this Order.

Vitamins and Iron Preparations.—In addition to milk, expectant mothers and children holding the green RB.2 ration book can also obtain priority allowances of orange juice and cod liver oil compound. For those expectant mothers who find the liquid cod liver oil unpalatable, tablets containing a concentrate of vitamins A and D together with calcium phosphate, are obtainable. Unfortunately the take-up of these products has been somewhat disappointing but has improved recently, following steps which were taken to make known to the families concerned that the preparations were necessary and were available.

Arrangements have been made for all children under 5 years of age in attendance at infant schools, the Ronald Tree Nursery

School and the War-time Nursery, to have their orange juice and cod liver oil daily. Tablets of ferrous sulphate are available for issue as required to children attending the nursery classes and the nursery.

Child Welfare Centres.—Four clinics were held weekly—3 at School Lane and 1 at St. Phillip’s Hall, for Kettering residents and evacuated children. The table below shows the attendances.

	St. Philip’s Hall		School Lane		Totals	
	Kett’g Resid’ts	Evac. Persons	Kett’g Resid’ts	Evac. Persons	Kett’g Resid’ts	Evac. Persons
Number of sessions	46	—	137	—	183	—
Children :—						
New cases under 1 year ...	63	—	320	4	383	4
Re-attendances	1010	—	5532	15	6542	15
New cases over 1 year ...	6	—	15	—	21	—
Re-attendances	691	1	4360	18	5051	19
Total attendances of children	1770	1	10227	37	11997	38
Average attendance of children per session	38.4	0.2	74.6	0.27	65.5	0.2
Consultations with Doctor :—						
Mothers	—	—	3	—	3	—
Children	732	—	3972	26	4704	26
Mothers with babies	1586	—	9501	29	11087	29
Visitors	390	—	1126	2	1516	2
Total attendances	3746	1	20854	68	24600	69
Average total attendance per session	81.4	0.2	152.2	0.49	134.4	0.37

The Work of the Health Visitors :—

HOME-VISITING.

Visits to expectant mothers :—			Kettering Residents.	Evacuated Persons.
Number of first visits ... ..	...	...	189	—
Number of re-visits ... ..	...	...	266	—
Number of ineffective visits ... ..	...	...	158	—
Visits to infants under 1 year :—				
Number of first visits ... ..	...	...	632	—
Number of re-visits ... ..	...	...	3171	—
Number of ineffective visits ... ..	...	...	691	—
Visits to children 1—5 years :—				
Number of first visits ... ..	...	...	43	—
Number of re-visits ... ..	...	...	4656	6
Number of ineffective visits ... ..	...	...	518	—
Number of visits to cases of :—				
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	...	...	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	...	...	2	—
Stillbirths ... ..	...	...	16	—
Total visits, 1943 ... ..	...	...	10,343	6
Total visits, 1942 ... ..	...	...	12,001	61

Attendance at clinic sessions :—

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics	366	—
Ante-natal Clinics	250	—
Post-natal Clinics	16	—
Total Attendances, 1943	632	—

Treatment.—The arrangements for the treatment of children under school age were the same as in past years. Dental attention for expectant and nursing mothers was provided as formerly.

Ophthalmic Clinic.—Twenty Kettering children made 24 attendances.

Aural Clinic.—Five Kettering children attended this clinic on 8 occasions.

Orthopaedic Clinic.—Ninety Kettering children and 5 evacuated children under school age were on the register of this clinic at the end of the year. There were 205 attendances at the Orthopaedic Clinic and 92 attendances at the After-care Clinic. One child was in the Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital during the whole of the year and on reaching the age of 4 years in November, 1943 became the responsibility of the Education Committee.

Dental Clinic.—The table below gives particulars of the cases treated :—

	Expectant Mothers	Nursing Mothers	Children	Total
New cases (first attendances)	63	3	18	84
Re-attendances ...	145	80	19	244
Total attendances ...	208	83	37	328
Extractions ...	60	24	8	92
Fillings	45	11	6	62
Other operations ...	126	62	27	215
Local anaesthetics	10	3	1	14
General anaesthetics	36	7	4	47

Included in these figures is 1 evacuated child. Dentures were supplied to 9 mothers referred from the Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics.

Minor Ailment Clinic.—One hundred and sixteen Kettering children attended on 394 occasions. One evacuated child made 1 attendance.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Child Life Protection.—During the year the Health Visitors, in their capacity of Child Protection Visitors, paid 27 visits to the homes of 9 children. At the end of the year the register contained the names of 5 children, 1 child being legally adopted during the year and 3 children being returned to the care of their mothers.

Boarded-Out Children.—The Health Visitors paid on behalf of the Northamptonshire County Council 28 visits to children boarded out in the Borough.

Examination of Employees.—Five males and 9 females were medically examined ; 4 males and 8 females were considered fit for employment in the service of the Corporation, 1 female was found to be unfit and 1 male was considered to be suitable for temporary service only.

Cremation.—One hundred and thirty-three cremations were carried out at the Kettering Crematorium during the year.

